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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re U.S. Patent Application |) |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| YASUDA et al. |) |
| Application 10/083,338 |) Art Unit 1631 |
| Filed: February 27, 2002 |) Examiner |
| For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR ASSEMBLING |) Mahatan, Channing) |
| NUCLEIC ACID BASE SEQUENCES |) |
| Attorney Docket No. HIRA.0027 |) |

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

COVER LETTER

Sir:

[x] The fee for submission of claims is calculated as shown below:

| For | TOTAL WITH NEW CLAIMS ADDED | TOTAL Currently On File | CLAIMS PAID | Rате | CALCULATION |
|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|---------|-------------|
| Total Claims | 11 | 15 | (Over 20) | x \$18 | 0 |
| Independent Claims | 3 | 3 | (Over 3) | x \$88 | 0 |
| MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) | | | | + \$300 | 0 |
| REDUCTION FOR FILING BY SMALL ENTITY (note 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.9, 1.27, 1.28). IF APPLICABLE, VERIFIED STATEMENT MUST BE ATTACHED | | | | | |
| | | | TOTA | L | 0.00 |

| | communications are submitted in the above-captioned |
|--|---|
| application or proceeding: | |
| [x] Response to Office Action w/ claim amendments [] Substitute Specification [] Preliminary Amendment [] Other | Petition for Extension of Time Terminal Disclaimer Letter to Draftsperson Assignment Petition under |

| [] | Please charge my Deposit Account Number in the amount of to cover the fees for | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| [] | A check in the amount of \$0.00 to cover the fee is enclosed. | | |
| [x] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associate communication, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number 08-1480 . | | | |
| | Respectfully submitted, Stanley P. Fisher Registration Number 24,344 | | |
| | Juan Carlos A. Marquez Registration Number 34 072 | | |

REED SMITH LLP 3110 Fairview Park Drive Suite 1400 Falls Church, Virginia 22042 (703) 641-4200

December 7, 2004

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| YASUDA et al. | |
| Application 10/083,338 |) Art Unit 1631 |
| Filed: February 27, 2002 |) —)—Examiner—————) Mahatan, Channing |
| For: Method And Device For Assembling |) Winnatan, Chamming |
| Nucleic Acid Base Sequences | |
| Attorney Docket No. HIRA.0027 |) |
| Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents | - |
| Washington, D.C. 20231 | |

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated September 7, 2004, the period for response to which expires on December 7, 2004. Please amend the above-identified application as follows: